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Message Text

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60
ORIGIN EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-11 ADP-00 COME-00 DOTE-00 AGR-20 L-03 SS-15

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-12 PRS-01

TRSE-00 /088 R

DRAFTED BY EB/ TT: ERO' CONNOR: VLV
5/15/73 EXT. 20316
APPROVED BY EB/ TT: RJWALDMANN
ICC - MR. ROBINSON (PHONE)
ARA/ MEX - MR. KING (PHONE)
ARA/ MEX - MR. HAMILTON (PHONE)
---------- 069667
P 151950 Z MAY 73
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO PRIORITY

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E. O. 11652: N/ A
TAGS: ETRN, MX
SUBJECT: RETURN OF US RAIL CARS
REF: MEXICO 3404

1. INFORMATION CONTAINED REFTEL AND PREVIOUS MESSAGES PROVIDED ICC. ON THE BASIS OF PRESENT INFORMATION, AND BARRING ANY MAJOR UNFORESEEN DEVELOPMENT, ICC DOES NOT INTEND TAKE ANY EMBARGO ACTION WITHIN TWO- WEEK PERIOD FROM MAY 8 MENTIONED BY CHAIRMAN STAFFORD. KEY ELEMENT IN ICC DECISION MAKING WILL BE EVIDENCE OF CONTINUED SIGNIFICANT NET RETURN OF CARS TO US. THIS WILL BE MEASURED BY AAR FIGURES. WE TRUST THERE WILL BE NO MEANINGFUL DIFFERENCE BETWEEN FNM AND AAR NUMBERS. YOUR FIGURES SHOW NET RETURN OF 624 CARS IN PERIOD MAY 4-13. WE HAVE ASKED AAR FOR ITS DATA WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN PREPARED ON DAILY BASIS UP TO NOW. HOWEVER, YOUR MESSAGES HAVE INDICATED REASSIGNMENTS LOCOMOTIVES TO LAREDO AREA, BUT AAR HAS NO REPORTS YET THESE NEW
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LOCOMOTIVES ARE ACTUALLY IN USE.

2. PROBABILITY STILL GREAT THAT TEX- MEX WILL ACT AGAIN TO IMPOSE EMBARGO IF ITS YARDS AT LAREDO BECOME SO CLOGGED ITS OPERATIONS ARE THREATENED WITH DISRUPTION. SIMILAR CONSIDERATIONS APPLY MISSOURI- PACIFIC. WE ASSUME FNM IS MAINTAINING CONTINUED CONTACT WITH TEX- MEX AND MOPAC AND IS AWARE THEIR THINKING. YOUR REPORTS ON FNM RELATIONS WITH THESE CONNECTING CARRIERS WILL BE WELCOME.

3. AAR HAS REPORT OF SCHEDULED FNM- COMASUPA MEETING MAY 14 TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR MOVING UNIT TRAINS OF GRAIN CARS FROM LAREDO TO MEXICAN POINT FOR IMMEDIATE UNLOADING AND RETURN IN UNIT TRAINS TO BORDER. NO WORD WHETHER ARRANGEMENTS SUCCESSFULLY MADE, BUT AAR INDICATED ITS VIEW THAT SUCH AN ARRANGEMENT SHOULD SIGNIFICANTLY ALLEVIATE PRESSURE ON TEX- MEX.

4. PROBABILITY CARRIER EMBARGOES AS WELL AS POSSIBILITY ICC ACTION SUGGESTS NEED FOR GOM TO FOCUS ON EXEMPTION CATEGORIES AND TO DETERMINE ITS PRIORITIES. TEX- MEX ACTION LAST FRIDAY PROVIDED FOUR EXEMPTIONS (SEE STATE 90222). WE PRESUME THESE WERE DETERMINED ON THE BASIS OF ITS OWN COMMERCIAL AND OPERATIONAL CONSIDERATIONS. ICC CONTINUES TO ADVISE IT WOULD EXEMPT PERISHABLES AND FOODSTUFFS, BUT NOT GRAIN, FROM ANY EMBARGO IT WOULD PROCLAIM. IT WOULD BE USEFUL IF WE KNEW WHAT GOM CONSIDERED ITS HIGHEST PRIORITIES IN THE EVENT EMBARGO BY EITHER CARRIERS OR ICC EFFECTED. EMBASSY IN ITS DISCRETION MAY MAKE ANOTHER APPROACH TO GOM TO DISCUSS THIS PRESENTLY HYPOTHETICAL SITUATION OR MAY PROVIDE ITS OWN RECOMMENDATIONS ON A PRIORITY BASIS AS TO WHAT EXEMPTION PRIORITIES SHOULD BE. ALSO, IS THERE ANY DISCUSSION BETWEEN FNM AND CONNECTING CARRIERS REGARDING SUCH PRIORITIES?

5. WE ASSUME FROM YOUR MESSAGE THAT THERE WAS NO DISCUSSION THIS ISSUE BETWEEN UNDER SECRETARY AND GOM OVER THE WEEKEND.

6. DEPARTMENT WOULD WELCOME ASAP EMBASSY (1) COMMENTS ON ICC LETTER; (2) ASSESSMENT ABILITY OF FNM THROUGH VARIOUS
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MEASURES IT IS ADVISING ARE BEING UNDERTAKEN TO RESOLVE PROBLEM; AND (3) RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING FURTHER ACTION IT AND/ OR DEPARTMENT SHOULD UNDERTAKE IN THIS SITUATION.
RUSH

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NMAFVVZCZ

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*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 MAY 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: worrelsw
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: ERO' CONNOR: VLV
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Executive Order: n/a
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